

# Interceptor Body Armor (IBA)

Each new generation of body armor is designed to offer increased protection and comfort to the Soldier by stopping or slowing bullets and fragments and reducing the number and severity of wounds. IBA is the most up-to-date body armor available, and was designed to replace the Personnel Armor System Ground Troops (PASGT) and the Interim Small Arms Protective Overvest (ISAPO) vests.

IBA is the model name for modular, multiple-threat body armor, consisting of the Outer Tactical Vest (OTV), Small Arms Protective Insert/Enhanced SAPI (SAPI)/(ESAPI), and Deltoid and Axillary Protector (DAP). Eight sizes of OTV and five sizes of front and back ergonomically designed SAPI/ESAPI ballistic plates are being fielded. The basic system weight (OTV and SAPI) is 15.7 pounds (size medium), which is 9 pounds lighter than the PASGT/ISAPO combination. The OTV, without plates, weighs 7.7 pounds (size medium) and protects against fragmentation. The SAPI/ESAPI plates provide additional protection and can withstand multiple small arms hits. There are attachable throat, groin, and collar protectors for increased protection and webbing loops on the front and back of the vest for attaching pouches from the Modular Lightweight Load-Carrying Equipment (MOLLE). The Deltoid and Axillary Protectors (DAP) component of the IBA provides for additional protection from fragmentary and projectiles to the upper arm and underarm areas. These features allow Commanders to tailor Soldier protection to meet mission threat conditions.



Enhanced Small Arms Protective Insert (ESAPI)

## System Description

**Component Materials:** OTV and DAP: Cordura, Kevlar, and/or Twaron. SAPI: Composite ballistic ceramic plate with coated ballistic fiber backing.

**Color:** Universal Camouflage Pattern.

**Weight:** System—15.7 pounds (size medium); OTV—7.7 pounds; SAPI—8.0 pounds per pair (size medium); ESAPI—10.9 per pair (size medium); DAP—5.3 pounds

**Size:** OTV—X-Small through XXXX-Large  
SAPI—X-Small through X-Large

The SAPI plate product enhancement (ESAPI) is being accomplished to ensure new technology and capabilities are fielded as rapidly as possible. The current SAPI armor is effective against a wide array of threats, and has to date saved countless lives. ESAPI increases the level of protection.

ESAPI plates began fielding to all Soldiers supporting Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom in March 2005 and will continue until all Soldiers in theater have been fielded the new plates.

